

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DAMASC 00716 011826Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-08 IO-13
ACDA-10 /095 W
-----012311Z 009635 /72-61

R 011600Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1564
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN
USIA WASHDC
DIA WASHDC
USCINCEUR

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 0716

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SY
SUBJECT: MEDIA SUMMARY FOR FEB 1

1. FEB 2 VISIT OF PRES SARKIS TO DAMASCUS AND DEVELOPMENTS
IN LEBANESE SITUATION DOMINATED MEDIA. PRESS BANNERED
ASAD'S DETERMINATION TO SUPPORT LEBANON AND ALSO HEADLINED:
"SARKIS DEMANDS SUBMISSION OF HEAVY WEAPONS TO ADF."
MEETINGS ASAD HELD WITH SEVERAL LEBANESE ISLAMIC GROUPS
ALSO RECEIVED PROMINENT ATTENTION.

2. LEAD ARTICLE REPORTED ASAD HAD MET JAN 31 WITH SHAFIQ
AL-WAZZAN, HEAD OF SUPREME ISLAMIC COUNCIL, AND FOUR
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 DAMASC 00716 011826Z

OTHER MEMBERS OF COUNCIL. EARLIER SAME DAY ASAD RECEIVED
LEBANESE FEDERATION OF ISLAMIC SCHOLARS. BOTH GROUPS
PRAISED SYRIAN ROLE IN LEBANON. SHAYKH ABD AL-HAFIZ
QASSIM STATED FEDERATION OF ISLAMIC SCHOLARS MADE CLEAR
"OUR INDEPENDENCE FROM THOSE WHO PRETEND TO EXTREME POSI-
TIONS ON BOTH THE LEFT AND RIGHT."

3. SAME ARTICLE QUOTED PRESS REPORTS STATING THAT SARKIS HAD DEMANDED ALL WEAPONS BE HANDED OVER TO ADF INCLUDING WEAPONS TAKEN FROM LEBANESE ARMY. SARKIS SAID TO BE PLANNING FORM UNIFIED LEBANESE ARMY COMMAND OF OFFICERS WHO REMAINED ALOOF FROM FIGHTING. ADF REPORTED CONTINUING SEARCH FOR HEAVY WEAPONS AND "CONTROL OVER PLACES WHERE SUCH WEAPONS HIDDEN." SHIP CARRYING "FUEL" TO BAY OF JUBBA SEIZED, ACCORDING TO ARTICLE, BY ADF BECAUSE ONLY LEBANESE GOVT PERMITTED IMPORT FUEL.

4. THREE SEPARATE PRESS EDITORIALS DEALT WITH SOUTH LEBANON. THEME WAS SAME ONE IN EVIDENCE SINCE ISRAEL WARNED AGAINST SYRIAN TROOP MOVEMENTS IN VICINITY NABATIYAH--ISRAEL USING ISSUE OF SOUTH LEBANON TO THWART PEACE EFFORT AND TO AVOID DEALING WITH ISSUE OF PEACE SETTLEMENT AT GENEVA. EDITORIALS CONTINUED TO CHARGE THAT US SUPPORTING ISRAEL IN MAKING GENEVA PLACE WHERE ONLY "OPINIONS ARE AIRED," AND REQUESTED WALDHEIM UTILIZE UN TO DO MORE TO SOLVE PROBLEM "BEFORE IT LOSES ITS PRESTIGE AS AN INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTION." EDITORIAL CONCLUDED BY WARNING THAT ARABS ENTITLED TO USE FORCE TO IMPLEMENT "WILL OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY."
MURPHY

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DAMASC00716
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770036-0258
Format: TEL
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770187/aaaacxqh.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: db9e4dd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3676113
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEDIA SUMMARY FOR FEB 1
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SY
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/db9e4dd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009